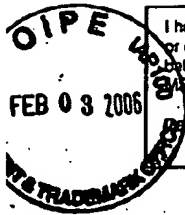


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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to:
MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
Dated: January 31, 2006 Signature: *[Signature]*
(Jonathan A. David)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Group Art Unit: 2178
Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-108

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: :
Kazuhiro Fukuda :
Application No.: 09/523,437 : Group Art Unit: 2178
Filed: March 10, 2000 : Examiner: C. B. Paula
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS :

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 6, 2005, finally rejecting claims 1-3 and 5-11, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

SC
entered
with
the
3-20-06